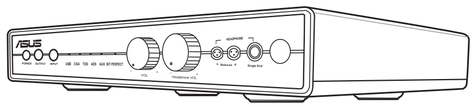
Essence 3

Hi-Fi USB DAC(Digital-to-Analog Converter)



Quick Start Guide

Safety Information

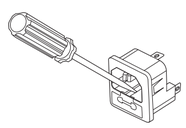
1. Read and keep these instructions for future reference.
2. Follow all instructions and take note of all warnings.
3. Do not use this apparatus near water or expose the device to moisture.
4. Clean machine surface with a cloth. Avoid using detergent or cleaning fluid.
5. Do not block any ventilation openings. Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
6. Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
7. The polarized or grounding-type plug is for user safety. A polarized plug has two blades with one wider than the other. A grounding type plug has two blades and a third grounding prong. The wide blade or the third prong is provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the outlet.
8. Protect the power cord from being stepped on or compressed particularly at the point where it exits from the apparatus.
9. Only use attachments/accessories approved by the manufacturer.
10. Use only with the cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table specified by the manufacturer, or sold with the apparatus. When using a cart, take care to avoid tipping over the load when moving the device.
11. Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when not in use for a long period of time.
12. Refer all repairs to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as when the power-supply cord or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the apparatus, the apparatus has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.

Additional Safety Information

For your own safety please read the following important instructions carefully before attempting to connect this unit to the main power supply. The instructions provided will help you get the best performance from this device and prolong the life of this product.

Repairs

Do not attempt to repair or disassemble this product. Consult a qualified technician or professional for service or repairs.



Use tools to replace the fuse.

Fuse

The fuse holder is located next to the power connector at the rear panel of the device.

Package Contents

This package should contain the following:

- ASUS Essence 3 Hi-Fi USB DAC x 1
- USB cable ('B-A' type) x 1
- Power cord x 1 (may contain two power cords depending on region/country)
- 6.3mm to 3.5mm adapter x 1
- Multi-language QSG x 1
- Audio-Precision (AP) test report x 1
- Installation driver CD x 1
- Spare fuse
- Remote control x 1
- IR Receiver Cable x 1
- XLR to mini XLR x 2
- XLR to RCA x 1
- RCA to RCA x 1

System Requirements

To ensure a successful installation of the ASUS Essence 3 USB DAC, your computer must meet the following requirements:

- IBM compatible PC with one USB2.0 (or higher) compatible port for the USB audio device
- Mac OSX 10.6 / Microsoft® Windows® 8 (32/64bit) / 7 (32/64bit) / XP (32/64bit)
- Intel® Pentium® 4 1.4GHz or AMD Athlon 1400 CPU or faster CPU
- 256 MB DRAM system memory
- 200 MB available HDD space for driver installation
- CD-ROM drive (or DVD-ROM drive) for software installation
- High-quality headphones or powered analog speakers

Driver Installation

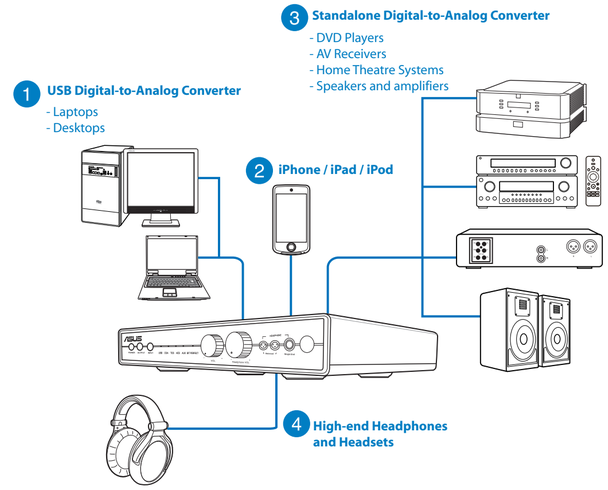
After connecting the ASUS Essence 3 to your computer using the bundled USB cable, install the device driver using the provided CD.

NOTES:
- Driver installation is only required if you plan to connect the ASUS Essence 3 to a PC or notebook.
- Driver version and the contents of the support CD are subject to change without notice.

To install the device driver:

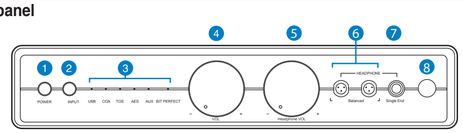
1. Insert the **ASUS Essence 3 Support CD** into your optical drive. Proceed to Step 5, if **Autorun** is enabled on your computer and the driver setup screen appears. If Autorun is not enabled on your computer, perform step 2.
2. On your Windows desktop, launch **File Explorer**.
   - Windows® 7 SP1 Click **Start** then **Computer**.
   - Windows® 8 Click ⊡ + **E**
3. In **File Explorer**, double-click the optical drive icon.
4. Double-click **Setup.exe**.
5. Read through the **End User License Agreement** and click **Accept** when prompted. Follow the on-screen instructions to complete driver installation.
6. When driver installation is complete, you will be prompted to restart your computer.

Functionality



Hardware Features

Front panel



1 - Power On/Off
Press to power off/on the Essence 3.
2 - Input selection
Press to select audio input source: USB, TOSLINK, Coaxial (COA), AES/EBU (AES3), or AUX audio input.
3 - Input selection/Bit perfect indicator
The corresponding LED will light up to show which audio source has been selected.
4 - Speaker volume control
The volume control adjusts the output level of unbalanced RCA and balanced XLR analog output.
5 - Headphone volume control
The volume control adjusts the output levels of the headphone jack.
6 - Headphone output (Balanced)
Connect your high-quality headphones/headsets with mini-XLR left and right connectors.
7 - Headphone output (Single connector)
Connect your high-quality headphones/headsets with a 6.3mm connector.
8 - IR sensor
Point your remote control in this area to remotely adjust input and volume.

Hardware Features

繁體中文
1 - 電源開關
2 - 輸入選擇
3 - 輸入選擇指示燈
4 - 喇叭音量控制
5 - 耳機音量控制
6 - 耳機輸出（平衡）
7 - 耳機輸出（單接頭）
8 - IR 感應器

简体中文
1 - 电源开关
2 - 输入选择
3 - 输入选择指示灯
4 - 扬声器音量控制
5 - 耳机音量控制
6 - 耳机输出（平衡）
7 - 耳机输出（单接口）
8 - IR 感应器

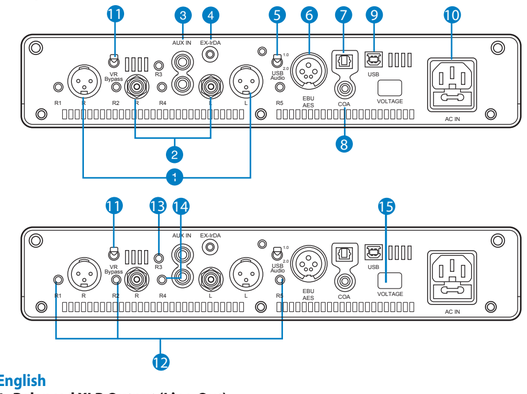
한국어
1 – 전원 켜기 / 끄기
2 – 입력 선택
3 – 입력 선택 / 비트 퍼펙트 표시기
4 – 스피커 볼륨 제어
5 – 헤드폰 볼륨 제어
6 – 헤드폰 출력 (균형)
7 – 헤드폰 출력 (단일 커넥터)
8 – IR 센서

日本語
1 - 電源ボタン
2 - ソース切り替えボタン
3 - 入力ソース / Bit Perfect インジケーター
4 - スピーカー音量ダイヤル
5 - ヘッドホン音量ダイヤル
6 - バランスヘッドホン出力ポート (mini XLR)
7 - ステレオヘッドホン出力ポート (6.3mm)
8 - 赤外線センサー

العربية
١ - تشغيل/إيقاف الطاقة
٢ - اختيار الإدخال
٣ - اختيار الإدخال/مؤشر البت المثالي
٤ - التحكم في مستوى صوت السماعة
٥ - التحكم في مستوى صوت سماعة الرأس
٦ - خرج سماعة الرأس (متوازن)
٧ - خرج سماعة الرأس (موصل فردي)
٨ - مستشعر IR

Bahasa Indonesia
1 - Daya Hidup/Mati
2 - Pilihan input
3 - Pilihan input/Indikator bit sempurna
4 - Kontrol volume suara speaker
5 - Kontrol volume suara headphone
6 -Output headphone (Imbang)
7 - Output headphone (Konektor tunggal)
8 - Sensor IR

Rear panel



English
1- Balanced XLR Output (Line-Out)
The ASUS Essence 3 features true balanced (XLR) output and supports balanced XLR audio speaker sets and audio receivers.
2 - Unbalanced RCA Output (Line-Out)
This port supports conventional stereo output for connection to line-level phono/RCA speaker systems or audio receivers.
3 - AUX Input
This port supports Apple iPod, iPad, and iPhone devices as well as other audio sources using a 3.5mm stereo connector.
4 - Ex-IrDA
Connect an IR receiver to this port if the Essence 3 does not have direct line of sight to the remote control.
5 - USB Audio 1.0/2.0
Use this switch to toggle between USB 1.0 and USB 2.0 audio support. Select USB audio 1.0 for Plug-and-Play devices. Select USB 2.0 on Apple Mac computers.
6 - EBU/AES Input
This port is used for connecting external digital decoders or digital speaker systems, home theater systems, AV receivers, and TV sets.
7 - TOSLINK Optical Input
This port is used to support TOSLINK input audio sources.
8 - Coaxial (COA) S/PDIF Input
This port is for connecting external digital decoders or digital speaker systems, home theater sets, and AV receivers for outputting digital audio. This connection produces loop or pass-through unprocessed digital audio.
9 - USB port
This USB port can be used to connect a desktop PC or laptop using a Type B to Type A USB cable.
10 - Power connector
Plug the supplied power adaptor into the Essence 3 after connecting all audio devices.
11 - VR Bypass (Volume Control Selection Bypass)
Use this switch to bypass volume control on Line-Out.
12 - XLR VR Calibration (R1, R2, R5)
Turn to calibrate XLR volume control.
13 - AUX IN VR Calibration (R3)
Turn to calibrate AUX IN volume control.
14 - RCA VR Calibration (R4)
Turn to calibrate RCA volume control.
15 - Voltage Selector
Use this switch to change voltage from 230V to 115V.

繁體中文
1- 平衡 XLR 輸出（音效輸出）
2 - 非平衡 Phono/RCA 輸出（音效輸出）
3 - AUX 輸入
4 - Ex-IrDA
5 - USB 音效 1.0/2.0
6 - EBU/AES 輸入
7 - TOSLINK 光纖輸入
8 - 同軸（COA）S/PDIF 輸入
9 - USB 連接埠
10 - 電源插槽
11 - VR 旁路（音量控制選擇旁路）
12 - XLR VR 校準（R1, R2, R5）
13 - AUX IN VR 校準（R3）
14 - RCA VR 校準（R4）
15 - 電壓選擇開關

简体中文
1- 平衡 XLR 输出（音频输出）
2 - 非平衡 Phono/RCA 输出（音频输出）
3 - AUX 输入
4 - Ex-IrDA
5 - USB 音效 1.0/2.0
6 - EBU/AES 输入
7 - TOSLINK 光纤输入
8 - 同轴（COA）S/PDIF 输入
9 - USB 接口
10 - 电源插槽
11 - VR 旁路（音量控制选择旁路）
12 - XLR VR 校准（R1, R2, R5）
13 - AUX IN VR 校准（R3）
14 - RCA VR 校准（R4）
15 - 电压选择开关

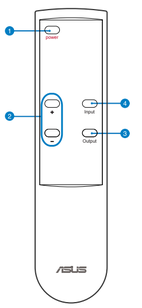
한국어
1– 균형 XLR 출력 (Line-Out)
2 – 불균형 RCA 출력 (Line-Out)
3 – AUX 입력
4 – Ex-IrDA
5 – USB 오디오 1.0/2.0
6 – EBU/AES 입력
7 – TOSLINK 광학 입력
8 – 동축 (COA) S/PDIF 입력
9 – USB 포트
10 – 전원 커넥터
11 – VR 바이패스 (볼륨 제어 선택 바이패스)
12 – XLR VR 보정 (R1, R2, R5)
13 – AUX IN VR 보정 (R3)
14 – RCA VR 보정 (R4)
15 – 전압 선택기 .

日本語
1- バランス出力ポート (XLR)
2 - アンバランス出力ポート (RCA / フォノ)
3 - AUX 入力ポート
4 - Ex-IrDA ポート
5 - USB Audio Class スイッチ
6 - AES/EBU 入力ポート
7 - TOSLINK 光デジタル入力ポート(オプティカル)
8 - 同軸デジタル入力ポート (コアキシャル)
9 - USB ポート (B タイプ)
10 - 電源コネクター
11 - VR バイパススイッチ(出力切り替えスイッチ)
12 - XLR VR 調整ダイヤル (R1、R2、R5)
13 - AUX IN VR 調整ダイヤル (R3)
14 - RCA VR 調整ダイヤル (R4)
15 - 電圧切替スイッチ

العربية
١ - إخراج XLR المتوازن (الخرج)
٢ - مخرج RCA غير المتوازن(الخرج)
٣ - إدخال AUX
٤ - Ex-IrDA
٥ - صوت USB ٢,٠/١,٠
٦ - دخل EBU/AES
٧ - دخل TOSLINK البصري
٨ - دخل S/PDIF (COA) متحد المحور
٩ - منفذ USB
١٠ - موصل الطاقة
١١ - تحويلة VR (تحويلة اختيار التحكم في مستوى الصوت)
١٢ - معايرة XLR VR (R1، R2، R5)
١٣ - معايرة AUX IN VR (R3)
١٤ - معايرة RCA VR (R4)
١٥ - محدد الجهد الكهربائي

Bahasa Indonesia
1- Output XLR Imbang (Line-Out)
2 - Output RCA Tidak Imbang (Line-Out)
3 - Input AUX
4 - Ex-IrDA
5 - USB Audio 1.0/2.0
6 - Input EBU/AES
7 - Input Optik TOSLINK
8 - Input Koaksial (COA) S/PDIF
9 - Port USB
10 - Konektor daya
11 - Bypass VR (Bypass Pilihan Kontrol Volume Suara)
12 - Kalibrasi VR XLR (R1, R2, R5)
13 - Kalibrasi VR AUX IN (R3)
14 - Kalibrasi VR RCA (R4)
15 - Pengatur Tegangan

Remote Control



1- Power On/Off
Press this button to switch off/on the Essence 3.
2- **Speaker Volume**
Press the button to adjust speaker volume.
3 - Output Select
Press this button to switch audio output source.
4 - Input Select
Press this button to switch audio input source.

繁體中文
1- 電源開關
2- 喇叭音量
3 - 輸出選擇
4 - 輸入選擇

简体中文
1- 电源开关
2- 扬声器音量
3 - 输出选择
4 - 输入选择

日本語
1- 電源 ON/OFF
2- スピーカー音量
3 - 出力ソース切り替え
4 - 入力ソース切り替え

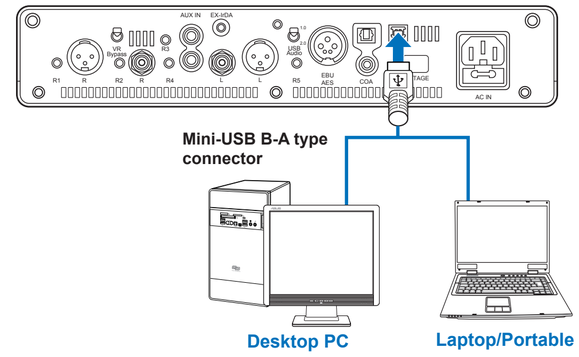
한국어
1– 전원 켜기 / 끄기
2– 스피커 볼륨
3 – 출력 선택
4 – 입력 선택

العربية
١ - تشغيل/إيقاف الطاقة
٢ - مستوى صوت السماعة
٣ - تحديد المخرجات
٤ - تحديد الدخل

Bahasa Indonesia
1- Daya Hidup/Mati
2- Volume Suara Speaker
3 - Pilihan Output
4 -Pilihan Input

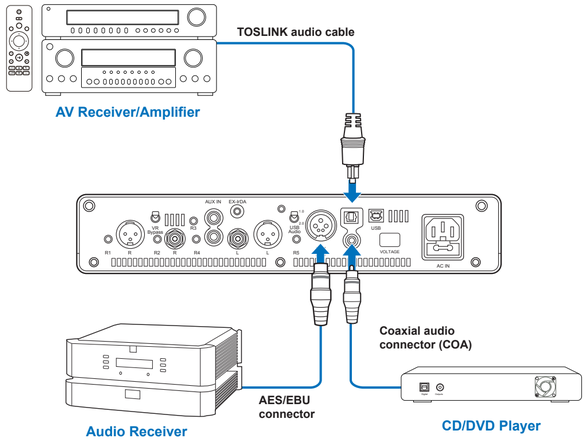
Connectivity Options

Connecting a desktop PC or laptop using USB

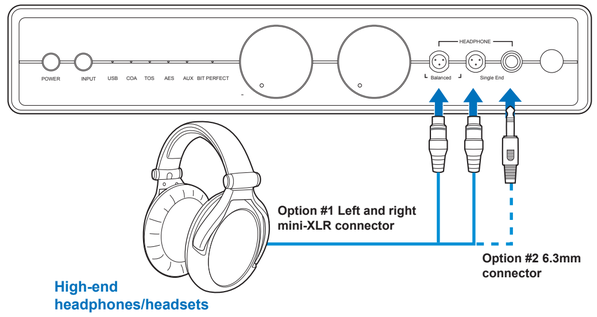


1. Connect a USB B-A type cable to the Essence 3's rear USB connector to one of the USB ports on the desktop PC or laptop.
2. Power on the Essence 3 and select USB input using the front panel or remote control. Ensure that the USB LED is on.
3. Install device drivers from the support CD. Please refer to the section **Driver Installation**.

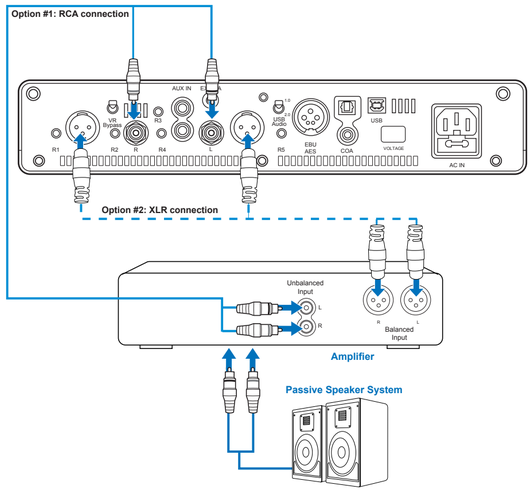
Connecting digital audio input devices using AES/EBU/TOSLINK/COA



Connecting high-end headphones/headsets

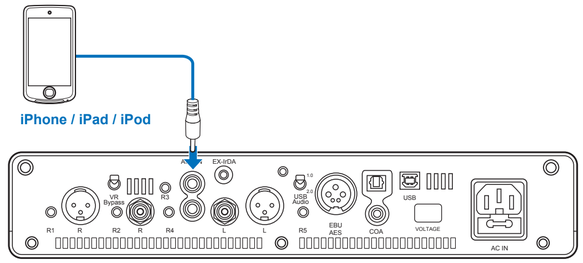


Connecting an amplifier and passive speaker setup

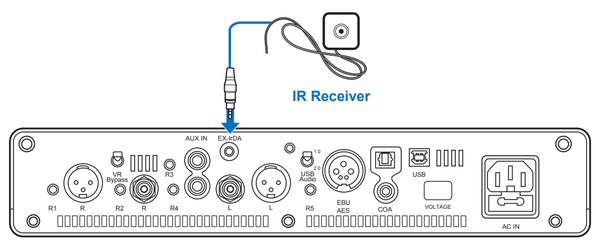


1. Connect the amplifier to the Essence 3 using either the unbalanced (RCA/Phono) or balanced (XLR) output connectors.
2. Connect the amplifer to a passive speaker system.

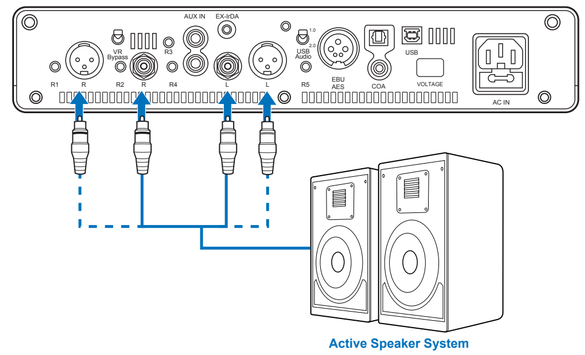
Connecting an iPhone / iPad / iPhone (Smart Device) using AUX IN



Connecting an EX-IrDA receiver



Connecting an active speaker set directly



ASUS WARRANTY UPDATE

Inspiring Innovation • Persistent Perfection

From 1 January 2012 updated warranties apply to all ASUS products, consistent with the Australian Consumer Law.

For the latest product warranty details please visit: ***http://support.asus.com***

Our goods come with guarantees that cannot be excluded under the Australian Consumer Law. You are entitled to a replacement or refund for a major failure and compensation for any other reasonably foreseeable loss or damage. You are also entitled to have the goods repaired or replaced if the goods fail to be of acceptable quality and the failure does not amount to a major failure.

If you require assistance please call ASUS Customer Service 1300 2787 88 | http://support.asus.com